



Milwaukee County Office of the Sheriff

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NEWS RELEASE

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Sheriff

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Update:

Traffic Fatality Results from Wrong-way driver Crash I-94 at 17th Street

Milwaukee, WI: This morning at approximately 7:15 AM, Milwaukee County Sheriff's deputies in the Expressway Patrol Division responded to a wrong-way head on crash scene on Westbound I-94 at 17th Street, in the City of Milwaukee. The female driver of one of the two struck vehicles, who needed to be extricated from her vehicle died at the scene. The wrong-way driver, a male, was severely injured and has been conveyed to an area hospital.

Update: The driver of the striking vehicle, Leopoldo R. Salas Gaytan, M, aged 41, of Milwaukee, remains at Froedtert Memorial Lutheran Hospital with severe injuries. He underwent emergency surgery this afternoon. He is under MCSO guard. Initial review of records indicates that he has never been licensed to operate a vehicle in Wisconsin.

Deputies from the Criminal Investigation Division of the MCSO, working with the Patrol Division and Medical Examiners Office, will continue to determine the extent that alcohol played in this crash. That investigation has included a blood draw on the striking driver. Criminal charges under consideration include Homicide by Intoxicated use of a Motor Vehicle; Duty Upon Striking an Occupied Vehicle; Operating without a License Causing Death, and other unspecified charges.

Continuing investigation has identified an additional vehicle, driven by a Milwaukee Fire Department employee, which was struck by Salas Gaytan just prior to the fatal crash. The officer was uninjured in this incident.

The primary victim, a 34 year old female who died at the scene, was a resident of Milwaukee. We are withholding her identity pending continuing notification to her loved ones over the weekend.

*****Further information will be distributed on Monday*****

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